ARRIVAL OF THE ST. LOUIS.

The steamship St. Louis, Capt. A. C. Crooker, from Aspiewall, N. G., Dec. 27, at 6 p. m., arrived at this pert on Monday morning. The St. Louis left New York Dec. 11, at 3:30 p. m. for Old Point Comfort. Va., where she arrived at 5:30 p. m. on the 12th. During the 13th and 14th they were employed in baking in military stores, baggage, &c., and on the 18th sailed from Old Point Comfort at & p. m., having on board the 9th Regiment of Infarriry destined for Cahfernia, consisting of 860 officers and privates, and arrived at Aspinwall on the 23d at 5 p. m., making the passage in seven days and twenty-two hours from Cape Henry. The troops disembarked early on the exercing of the 24th, and were conveyed by railroad to Panama, and placed on board the steamers Oregon and Golden Age, all in fine health, before sundown of the

The Oregon left for San Francisco on the 26th, at 5:30 p. m., to be followed by the Golden Age immediately on the arrival of the steamer of the 22d from New York.

The St. Loub experienced strong gales, with heavy bead-see, from the 27th to the 31st ult.; and from Cape Hatterns to the Capes of the Delaware en countered very heavy gales from N. E. to N. W.

The health of the Isthmus was never better. The railroad being in fine order, the passengers cross from eccan to occan in four hours.

H. B. M. sloop-of-war Brisk was hourly expected at Panama from Acapulco with \$2,000,000 in specie for England; and the United States steamer Massachusetts was looked for in a few days.

The following is a list of the officers of the 9th Regiment Infantry, passengers per St. Louis to Aspinwall, N. G., from Fort Monroe, Old Point Comfort, Va .:

N. G., from Fort Monroe, Old Point Comfort, Va.:
Colonel Commanding Geo. Wright, wise, daughter, son an exerant, Licer. Col. Silas Casey. Brevet Licut. Col. E. J. Step stee, Capt. and B. evet Major F. Lugenbeel, wife, a children an exerant, Licer. and Quartermaster J. Van Vosat, wife and servant, Assirvant. Licert. and Quartermaster J. Van Vosat, wife and servant, Assirvant, Licert. and Quartermaster J. Van Vosat, wife and servant, Assirvant, Licert. and Quartermaster J. Van Wiss Crawford, Assirvant Strageon B. B. Brown, wife and children. Miss Crawford, Assirtant Surgeon Randolph Sistant Surgeon Randolph Capt. Chas. S. Winder and wife, Capt. Guthrie and servant Capt. Chas. S. Winder and wife, Capt. Bout. wife and child Licertaints Harvic, Chas. A. Reynolis, McKhhin, Wicking Dougias, L. Bissell, J. Miller, Wood, Owen, Davis, Florating Dougias, L. Bissell, J. Miller, Wood, Owen, Davis, Florating Dougias, and Ailen. Suther, T. P. Chilfelle and wife, Miss Beatty, Mr. Armstrong; 756 non-commissioned officers and privates.

## THE ISTHMUS.

To the kindness of Mr. Charles H. Noyes, Purser o the St. Louis, we are indebted for files of Panama papers of the 27th uit. The local news, however, is altogether unimportant.

The propeller steamship Columbus, purchased by the Railroad Company for the Central America and Mexico frade, is advertised to leave Panama between the 3d and 10th of January. She is to be commanded by Capt. John M. Dow, late of the P. M. S. Co.'s service.

The Aspinwall Courier of Dec. 20 says:

"We hear that a project of confederation between Honduras, San Salvador and Nicaragua is on foot; our advices from Nicaragua do not confirm the probability of any such arrangement, but they distinctly declare that Costa Rica will oppose whatever arrangements of a gubernatorial character may be made by Walker beyond the boundaries of Nicaragua—and we think will endeavor to oust him from his present position. If Honduras and Guntemala should also turn against him, which, despite our advices, we deem more than possible, he will fare badly. The Aspinwall Courier of Dec. 20 says:

## SOUTH PACIFIC COAST.

From The Panama Stor and Herald, Dec. 22. Our dates are: Valparaiso, Nov. 30; Callao, Dec. 10; Paita, Dec. 15.

CHILL On the 17th ult, the Government convoked Congress for an extraordinary session. The matter for consideration consisted of a project of civil law, the treaty celebrated with the Argentine Republic, the Consular Convention with New Granada and with Ecuador, supplementary estimates of extraordinary expenses, &c.

The treaty with the Argentine Republic and the Consular Convention with Ecuador and New Granada were approved.

The new code of civil laws was first discussed in the Senate and approved. It is to come into operation on On the 17th ult. the Government convoked Con-

The new code of civil laws was first discussed in the Senate and approved. It is to come into operation on the 1st of January, 1857 (!) The extraordinary expenses are for the purpose of enlarging the School of Arts and for completing the outfit of the steamer Esmeralda, already launched in the Thames.

It was expected that the session would be a short one. On the 29th of November, the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation between Great Britain and Chik was duly signed and exchanged at Santiago.

The papers contain no further political news.

During the 15 days ending Nov, 30, but few arrivals of foreign merchandise had taken place; the sales were consequently limited, being confined principally to purchases for the Bolivian markets. A cargo of 500 tuns coal per Gem of the Nith was sold at \$16, deliverable at Caldera.

Flour—There has been some animation in the Flour

Caldera.

Flour-There has been some animation in the Flour trade. Owing to exports for New Holland sales were effected at \$9.50, but the price afterward rose to \$10.37, \$10.50, and \$10.75. The export of this article up until the new crep comes in

We have no news to record from this Republic, nor do we find in the Peravian or Chilian papers any no-tices of interest.

PERU.

Our private advices inform us that every symptom of another revolution is apparent. Castilla is fast losing his influence, and the friends of Vivance and Echinique are both waiting for "something to turn up" to try their chance once more. Arrests are made nightly in Lima of persons supposed to be inimical to the Government, and every one feels that Castilla's relaying large come to an end.

rule will soon come to an end.

The splendid new frigate Aparimac, just arrived from England, got on shere in the harbor, and was with some difficulty bauled off by the steamers in port.

The November return of saltpeter from Iquique, and guano from the Chincha Islands, have been published. The former is as follows:

To Hamburg. 33,342 quintals. To France. 5,000 quintals. To England. 20,096 quintals. To Holland. 8,900 quintals. To Order. 50,025 quintals. To Sardinia. 7,000 quintals. Total. 124,363 quintals.

From the 1st of January to date the export of this 

The guano export for the month of November was

as follows:

18 vessels of 13,584 tuns, for England, Australia and Italy.

1 vessel... 372 " for the Unified States.

2 vessels... 2,817 " for France and French colonies.

4 vessels... 2,922 " for Mauritius

1 vessels... 1,920 " for pSain.

27 vessels of 19,775 tuns register.

## AUSTRALIA.

By way of Callao we have received Sydney dates to October 1, being twelve days later than previous ad-

NEW SOUTH WALES. The Sydney Morning Herald from September 20 to October 1, inclusive, contains little news of importance

October I, inclusive, contains little news of importance to the general reader.

The Royal Mail ship Champion of the Sea, from England July 5, arrived on the 26th. The Asia for London, with the mails, was to sail on the 1st. The Legislative Council had passed the new Marriage bill, which gave general satisfaction.

The Public Works Loans bill has been read a third time and passed. Its object is to authorize the negotiation of loans in Great Britain, or elsewhere out of the colony, and which, together with the interest, shall be a primary charge upon the public revenue of the colony.

colony.

The New South Wales Patriotic Fund had reached the large sum of £60,000, of which £40,000 had been forwarded to London. The mercantile article of The Herald of the 25th says:

"The officially declared insolvencies, and rumored

"The officially declared insolvencies, and rumored failures of many mercantile firms, have caused a serious depression in almost all commercial departments; while the vexations delay on the part of the Government in bringing forward the new Tariff bill has added to the general embarrassments of trade. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, we may confidently offer an official that the caution observed by our leading and during the last ten or twelve months, and without increasing population, the large demand for all art fee of demestic consumption, our trade, notwithstanding the present temporary depression, may be declared to be in a sound state. During the last ten days the result of public sales evinced considerable improvement in many of the chief articles of commerce, while heavy consignments from European, American and colonial ports prove that confidence in the stability and increasing importance of the trade of the stability and increasing importance of the trade of Sydney is unshaken, in spite of what, it is to be hoped,

is only a brief prostration of trade.
"The weekly receipts from the Western, Southern

and Northern gold fields, by public eroort and by private hands, are estimated at 3,000 ounces."

DEATH OF THE POET ROGERS.

Our English journals by the Arago bring us tidings of the death of SANUEL ROGERS, the oldest surviving representative of English literature and society in the last century, while he filled a conspicuous place in the intellectual history of the present day. Mr. Rogers was in the ninety-sixth year of his age, having been born in 1760. His poetical works, though few in number, are well known to cultivated readers a models of elaborate and finished composition, abounding in passages of quiet beauty, and showing an exquisite refinement of taste, but without pretensions to originality of thought or remarkable vigor of expresion. His earliest production, published in 1787, was the "Ode to Superstition and other Poems." This was succeeded in five years by the "Pleasures of Memory, which work formed the basis of his reputation as a poet, and is still read by the lovers of smooth and melodious versification. In 1758 he published his Epistle to a Friend and other Poems:" in 1814, his 'Vision of Columbus" and "Jacquilino;" in 1819. Human Life; and in 1822, the first part of his Italy." This last work was brought out in a style of costly magnificence - not less than ten thousand pounds, it is said, having been spent on its embellish-

The eminence of Mr. Rogers in the literary circles of London depended more on his accomplishments as a connoisseur and a critic than on his merits as an author. His great wealth also enabled him to play the part of a Mecanas to perfection. His house was the center of whatever was brilliant and fascinating among the literary celebrities of the age, but his chief delight was in extending his friendly aid to young and unknown authors, who were struggling with difficulties.

" Many a man now hving can remember that on a "Saturday night he went to bed an unknown lad. thinking of the celebrated men of the time as a person thinks who has only read about them, and on Sunday walked home from the hospitable "bonse of Mr. Rogers, encouraged to persevere in "his task by the hearty good wishes and friendly sympathy of those who had heretofere appeared to him almost as inhabitants of another world. Combined with this kindliness of disposition toward those who needed his sympathy, was an opposite trait which, in some relations, must have made him an object of intense social aversion. On this point we quote from a London journal: "He was, plainly speaking, at once a flatterer and a cynic. It was impossible for those who knew him best to say, at any moment, whether he was in earnest or covert jest. Whether he even was in earnest, there is no sort of evidence but his acts; and the consequence was that his flattery went for nothing, except with novices, while his cansticity bit as deep as he intended. He would begin with a series of outrageous compliments, in a measured style which forbade interruption; and if he was allowed to finish, would go away and boast how much he had made a victim swallow. He would accept a constant sent at a great man's table, flatter his host to the top of his bent, and then, as is upon record, go away and say that the company there was got up by conscription—that there were two parties before whom everybody must appear, his host and the police. Where it was safe he "would try his sarcasms on the victims them-"selves. A multitude of his sayings are rankling in people's memories which could not possibly have had any other origin than the love of giving pain Some were so atrocious as to suggest the idea that he had a sort of psychological curiosity to see how people could bear such inflictions. Those who could bear them, and especially those who despised them, stood well with him. In that case, there was some thing more like reality in the tone of his subsequent intercourse than in ordinary cases. The relation which this propensity of his hore to his position was direct. It placed him at great men's tables, and kept him there, more than any other of his qualifications. His poetry alone would not have done it. His love and knowledge of art would not have done and much less his wealth. His causticity was his pass-key everywhere. Except the worthip paid to the Railway King for his wealth, we know of nothing in modern society so extraordinary and hu-miliating as the deference paid to Rogers for his illnature. It became a sort of public appreheusion, in derensing with his years, till it ceased to be disgrace ful in the eyes of the coteries, and the flatterer was flattered, and the backbiter was propitiated, almost without disguise or shame, on account of his bitter

Mr. Rogers was extensively known as one of the richest bankers of London. He was not proud of this distinction, however, and was reluctant that it should be brought into notice. "When, some years since, his bank was robbed to so enormous an amount b the pillage of a safe that everybody supposed must stop payment; and when it did not stop, and all his great friends testified their sympathy first, and then their joy, it was a curious thing to observe the old poet's bearing, and to hear the remarks upon it. He was wonderfully reserved, and passed off the whole with a few quiet jokes, through which was plainly reen his mortification at being recog as a banker, in a sphere where h hoped he was known as an associate of the "great, and the first connoisseur in England." His tenacity of life was wonderful, A few years since he was run over by a cab and received injuries which every one supposed must prove fatal to a per son of his advanced years. But he soon recovered from the shock and resumed his accustomed place is society. His breakfasts, which gathered around the genial board the most eminent literary men of all countries, were continued till within a recent period. But of late their charm had passed away. The old man's memory had failed, while his bitterness o spirit remained. Death brought a welcome relief to his unseemly spectacle. The grave has now placed its seal on whatever was generous and kindly in his nature; let it also consign his frailties to swift oblivion.

GREATNESS, OF ALABAMA .- We are glad to observe that the people of Alabama, or at least the Governor entertain a very comfortable sense of their own importance—as much so almost as the geese immortalized by the French satirist, who, as they swam in their pond, came to the sage conclusion that they must be the very center-point of creation, but for whom mankind would be a miserable set, without pens to write with, or even bed to sleep on. The Montgomery Journal, in giving at account of the Governor's inaugural address, has the following passage: "The Executive referred to the peculiar situation

"The Executive referred to the progress of fanatic-ism, alluded to the benefits of the institution of slavery to the African race, and to its power in developing the resources of the producing States, spoke of the power of cotton as the regulator of commerce, and as the great pacificator of the civilized world—al-luded to the immense resources of the South, and of luded to the immense resources of the South, and of its ability to sustain itself in any emergency—that in the defense of its rights it must and could rely on its own prowess, and that it must meet aggression at the threshold and be true to itself," &c.

THE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW IN COURT OF APPEALS.—The case of The People agt. James E. Wynehamer of Eric County, convicted there of a violation of the Prohibitory Liquor Law, was up in the Court of Appeals yesterday. Wynehamer, after his conviction, appealed to the Supreme Court, where the decision of the Court below was affirmed, when he again determined to appeal to the Court of here is a special to the Court of here. decision of the Court below was affirmed, when he again determined to appeal to the Court of last resort. The District Autorney of Eric County appeared for the People, and Moses F. G. Fithian of Buffalo, and ex-Judge Amasa J. Parker of this city for defendant. Judge P. having been recently retained, and desiring time to examine the merits of the case, it was, upon his application, put over to the next term of the Court. The case of the People agt. Toynbee—also involving the constitutionality of the Coercive Liquor act—is set down for argument in the above Court on the 11th inst., Wednesday next. John M. Van Cott, esq., appears for the People, and the Hon, John A. Lott for the defendant.

The Veterans of the War of 1812 passed through Jensey City, yesterday, from New York on their way to Wathington.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

HINTS FOR HEALTH AND COMPORT IN

RAILROAD TRAVELING. To the Editor of The N. V. Tribuse. Sin: I purpose in this communication to give you renders some reminiscences which will. I doubt not awaken memories of like incidents in their minds; for who is there that has not had experience of railroad traveling ! In fact, our whole country is in motion. All, not even excepting children and and females seem to be journeying, and we might say "no whither ?" if we were to judge of the little result of each eager pursuit. Like the alternation of waves, which there is first a gathering of elemental force: from afar-then a rush-a strife of speed-the top-most waters dash into foom, as they leap beyond the underlying turnid mass, that is retarded in its course by the reflux of preceding waves, then suddenly the whole crested billow sinks into a farrow or is over lopped by and intermingled with another close follow ng after-so is the ceaseless stir of human life. The hurry of pursuit after comething that we might suppose a momentors object of desire—something which may be attained, but only by great effort. Such is the outward appearance of things—in part it may be imitative. We involuntarily quicken our movement when we see others in haste. It is a curious speculation whether railroads have not produced an acceleration of the human mind in its general movement. Who thinks now at the same rate that did a Knickerbocker in the days when it took a week to go from New-York to A bany by the only mode then used, viz. by wind-propelled vessels? But I am not a P-yelool gist—I deal only with practical resurts, and those chiefy affecting man's physical well-being. pose a momentous object of desire-something which those chieffy affecting man's physical well-being though my experience has developed some important though my experience has developed some important relations between mind and body not hitherto observed. Railroad traveling is, therefore, interesting to me, as affecting the health and comfort of myriads of sensitive beings whose organism is fitted for the enjoyment of life, but which would seem rather to be constituted only for suffering, if we were to judge four the accumulating life that human flesh is hely to—which moratural state is the result of habitual violation of laws, by conformity to which alone, are health and comfort to be attained.

I remember with pleasure the old mode of traveling

comfort to be attained.

I remember with pleasure the old mode of traveling by stage-coaches. With all its bardships, and they were not inconsiderable, bilarity was still the nevertailing tone of the passengers—nay, the very hardships, including the accidents that would sometimes happen, would call forth a latent good-humor that seemed exhaustless. I have never been inspired with more cordial esteem for others than toward my follow-passengers in a journey by stage in which there was much endurance. But who ever saw unith in a religiously unless upon the occasional irruntion of road-car, unless upon the occasional irruption country-girls going from one village to another a cent one-especially if escorted by some barbarous gallante-"intonsis capillis"-who have seen the gallants—"inton-is capillis"—who have seen the Goths at Rome, and acquired by imitation so much of their manliness as lies in their hair? I must confess that my preference is for the way-train, instead of the express, for the very reason that the scene is now and then enlivened by the coming in and going out of passengers, among whom, as above hinted, there may now and then be some of the frollesome order. This preference will beyond all question be put under the bar as being entirely in conflict with the rationalities of this new age. I must indeed confess myself a Bocotian, and not to have attained to the attic refinement by which sense is volatilized into a mere vaporish ment by which sense is volatilized into a mere vaporish mobility. The subtlety of reason is ciated to that degree that the fable of Ixion and the clouds is brought into full delineation. But here, again, I shall perhaps be rudely interrogated why I do not speak of this age as one of inventive usefulness, rather than of ineffective motions of what is left of mind among us. I answer with great deference—being duly mindful, as before binted, of my own obtuseness of perception—that I understand utility always to import a resulting good. The utile of the abetient moralists was always held to be also "Boram." I admit the inventive fertility of our times, and at least one prectical result—viz. Economy of time. But in the railroad career it is economy of time at the expense of health and comfort; economy of time at the expense of health and comfort; and the express train, which our traveling public seem to hold in such high estimation, intensfires all that there is in the mode of travel, itself calculated to break down the healthful tone of the human system. Why is it preferred, unless because the highest rate of Why is it preferred, unless because the highest rate of speed is kept up continuously a great distance without the respite of occasional stops, that very respite which is the only thing that can counteract the morbific effect of impetuous speed? I am persuaded that uninterrupted motion would, in a much less space of time than is generally supposed, shatter the nervous system and throw the mind off its balance. The nearer we approach to that perilogs limit the more is our headth teoparded. And yet I shall, perhaps, be told that we soon become insensible to the motion and feel only a seporific influence. There is of course a graduated difference of capacity in this respect; but I undertake to say that the general effect, the direct tendency at least, is crushing to a sensitive, nervous system; and I need only refer as proximate proof of my assertion to the anomalous and formidable class of diseases which of late years has becomed up among us, buffling the skill of physicians and seemingly portentous of the final destruction of what little of physical endurance there was left in the female constitution. The namerous sudden deaths, the alarming failure of the health of young females, the premature deflores and fyoung females, the premature deflorescope of our nest gifted men, gray hairs in youth—the paller and attenuation of our young men, seemingly indicating the infirmity of old age, has been overtaken at the life-are these things not significant of some great evil existing in the social system; and may we not seek in part the cause

which we can look for only in utter exhaustion ! I say this, "en bennet carre." Here I take my stand, "Ne suter ultra crepidam," but in a matter pertaining to the medical art I fear no contradiction from my professional brethren. As to those self-named doctors who are willing to speculate upon the fatuity of mankind, and get up panaceas for all human adments, I fear their hold of their deluded fellow-men is on the processor. In fact, for I workers who are increase. In fact for I may as well make a clean breast), I cannot but think that there is a declining strength of mind. We are not what our fathers were—

strength of mind. We are not what our fathers werewe have not the same tenacity of purpose. Our descendants—we may expect from the oness already
adverted to—will not make even our places good.

Upon the whole, the general habit of life is tending
to acceleration, involving the sacrifice of all those
genial instincts designed by nature for our happiness—
chief among which is mederation in acting and seasonable yest.

able rest.

Even new we see how eager haste pervades the amusements as well as the business of the world. All For change of follies and relays of joy

But I will not now pursue this subject further, which is in fact a digression from the subject turther, which I started. To return to the comparative acceleration of railroad travel. I have admitted the exception to the general rule; but, to judge of the real effect, we must look in the cars that bear the "through passengers, as they are called in railroad phrase. Suppose we say, for instance, from Boston to New-York. The last time I passed over that route I rode from Worcestor to New-York by the side of a gentleman who was, so far as I could judge from outward appearance, intelligent. New York by the side of a gentleman who was, so far as I could judge from outward appearances, intelligent, and we neither of us spoke a word upon the whole route. Now this was not because I am inclined to be distant to strangers; on the contrary, I despise that faise formality which defends itself against all familiarity with the concentrative intensity of a porcupine, and prefer always a cordial interchange of thought with all with whom I may fall in company, imparting and receiving instruction and entertainment, which is the true law of words interchange.

the true law of social intercourse.

I mention this case, therefore, not as illustration of

I mention this case, therefore, not as illustration of my idiosyncracy, but only because it did not seem to me at the time as anything out of the way—it being in conformity with all I saw about me, viz.: a meaning-less condition of mind, barren of taought or picasing emotions, and thus making void the bengmant prevision of nature, by which all change and novelty are designed to promote healthful elasticity. I amobilized to make, and shall conclude with a very delicate one which, in Mr. Gibbon's phrase, I would gladly valuable in Mr. Gibbon's phrase, I would gladly valuable the obscurity of a bearned language, but I find nothing in the classics pertinent to the case. The Roman roads—magnificent in extent—seem to have been free from the autance in question. Twenty minutes is man reads—magnificent in extent—seem to have been free from the nuisance in question. Twenty minutes is the time usually alletted in railroads for refreshment and other namely as recessive, not widom, however, diminished to fifteen minutes. If any one supposes that the mechanics of the human storeach, so gentle by nature and the still softer peristaltic action of the bowels can be safely forced under such a pressure, he will find his mistake by one day a travel on a railroad. Human hydraulies cannot thus be imposed upon. One of our censes at least (and that one deemed heretofore a loxury), ought to be withdrawn icemed beretofere a luxury), ought to be withdraws deemed heretofere a laxury), ought to be withdrawn by nature if we are to be delivered from the consciousness of the rigantic evils which I have described. But I will not pursue this pairful subject further. Sir I have furnished these hints to your readers gratuifeurly, (which is the only thing my professional brethren would object to,) and without ever giving my business address for the benefit of those many sufferers who might desire consultation. It is my purpose to pursue these suggestions already made now particularly with reference is discussed and content of the content of the

[Albany Journal, Jan 5 traccio

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune. Six: Have you noticed the piracy on the "Hydraulice" in work published by Mr. Ewbank a few years ago) in the January number of Harper's Magasine, just issued! I refer to the article "THE WAY to ski blows up." I presume the publishers are ignorant of the source from which it has been drawn, but the writer, whoever he is, is not ashamed to live on other men's labor. Of the four ancient Eolipiles in the supplement to the "Hydraulies" he has copied three, and to qualify the theft he has varied the attendant human figures. For the same purpose he has tendant human figures. For the same purpose he has given an imaginary one in place of the fourth. Instead of giving credit for originating the mechanical nature of classical monsters, he has incidentally observed that "Mr. Ewbank, among others," has argued for such an interpretation. If he knew of others he should have named them. His article would have no pith but for what he has taken from the Hydranies. The rest constant of the statement of the same of th what he has taken from the Hydraubes. The rest consists of common remarks on commonplace facts, known to everybody. Had he given full credit to that book, as every bonest man would have done, there had been no cause to complain. There is no other volume extant that contains the illustrations, and of the rare old works out of which they were collected he does not pretend to know anything. He has seized on the supplement for the subject and materials of the paper, and has left its readers to infer that the property was his own.

New York, Jan. 4, 1556. AN ENEMY TO STEALING.

POSTAL REFORM.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune. Sin: I was highly gratified with your remarks in this morning's TRIBUNE on the postal arrangements of this city. It is high time that our community were awake to the importance of the subject. Why should net our Post-Office accommodations be fully equal to those enjoyed in England! Let the people of this great city speak out in one united voice, and it will not be in vain. Let us ask for the New-York Post-Office a mere central location and a more eligible and suitable building; let us seek for the introduction of the earrier system, at the expense of the Department, into our largest cities; and finally, let us ask for the English ystem of transmitting funds, by drafts on the Post-Office where the funds are sent. I hope that the propesed meeting may be held as soon as possible, that Congress may be seasonably petitioned upon a subject so deeply interesting to every citizen.

New York, Jan. 4, 1896.

A NEW YORKER.

FORK PACKING IN CINCINNATI AND LOUISVILLE.

We can scarcely take up a Western exchange without seeing some fresh statement or learning some later statistics from the Perk-packing foci in that region. The Louisville Times estimates that at least one hundred thousand more than the average of hogs will be slaughtered in Kentucky this season. The Louis cille Journal acquaints us that the Pork-packing establishments in that city are in full operation, and anticipates a large numerical total when the slaughtering shall be completed. From Cincinnati the accountare not quite so flourishing; nevertheless we learn from The Cincinnati Commercial, that notwithstand ing the lateness of the season, a fair average of packing is yet expected to be done. The staple of pork forms a larger item of our national industry than would be generally credited by these uninformed on the subject. We do not exceed a reasonable calculatien when we set down the number of hogs slaught ered in the various packing-houses at two millions annually, representing a value of twenty millions of dollars. The larger proportion of this is destined for the export trade. But this porcine aggregation, vast as it bears no proportion to the amount slaughtered through the entire year, to meet our domestic con sumption. We feel justified in estimating the year's annual production at twenty millions, bearing a value of two hardred millions of dollars. Supposing the profit upon this reproductive supply to be twenty per cent to the raiser, we have annually the considerable addition of forty millions of dollars to our national wealth, an amount of profit nearly equal to one-half the gross value of the entire cotton crop of 1834. We can perceive by this how greatly our industry would suffer were we to banish pork from our table and to adopt the Israelitish dictory.

Viewing the economical importance of this Western branch of industry, we deem the subject of sufficient importance to justify us in occupying the attention of our readers for a few moments, while we daguerrectype the most salient features, of a Perk Packinghouse. To produce the scene fairly to the mental vision of the reader, we must beg him to accompany us as far as the flourishing City of Cincinnati, and roll ing up his pantaloons to his boot-tops, wade the muddy read with us that passes Deer Creek, and hold steadily on till be reaches the Packing-house to which we are about to introduce him. The walk is by no means an agreeable one, we admit; the incessant squalls of fifty thousand hogs which we pass on our road, fail upon the ear with most painful effect, and the villainous compound of smells that assail us on every point from the various lard-presses, tallowmelters, bone boilers and other carniverous establish ments that line the road, render the atmosphere we inhale disagreeable in the extreme. Diverging to the right a short space, and crossing a primitive timber construction that bridges a narrow crock, we mount a huge step with the assistance of our hands, and enter the office of Mr. Francis Beresford. It is early in the morning, and the hands are not yet to work, as they are waiting for the laborers to partially clear the dry ing-room of the carcasses of yesterday's slaughter, to afford them room for their more recently immolated victims. Mr. Beresford is a fair specimen of the West -bluff, hospitable and hearty, with an idiosyncrus; just adapted to his social relation, and it is clearly evident that he is a great favorite with his numerous employees. While they incase themselves in their oil-skin overails, or hong round the stove, we are greatly edified with the conversation of the company. It is a rough pursuit they are engaged in, and plainly requires a less choice artistic and intellectual state culture than the studio or the opera-but the spirit that animates them is identical with that of their

more pretentious brethren. "Pugh slaughtered fifteen hundred vesterday," exclaims one, "and Kirby turned out eight hundred in the forencon.'

'Yes," remarks another, "and Black Joe gutted seven boes a minute at Allen's, and won ten dollars," All express incredulity at this wonderful achievement, and the affirmator becomes suddenly energetic in his reference to authorities in authentication of his

"I den't care if all Cincinnati see'd it," maintains a third; "Jehn Weedrough can beat Black Joe, and he never guited seven hoge yet." This provokes a disposition to wrangle, in which all

are willing to take sides, and a declamatory contro versy is about to ensue; but further discussion is suddenly cut short by the foreman shouting from the slaughter-house, 'PNow, boys! now, boys! are you going to begin to-day! This is answered by a sudden rush to their stations

in the scalding-room, and in their sudden exodus we find ourselves among the foremest of the gang. Arrived in the scalding-room, for slaughter-house,) we cast a harty glance around. It is a large oblong apartment, paved with stone, opening at one end, by means of a wide deer ascended to by a staging, into the slaughter-pen, and communicating at the opposite extremity with the drying room, where the hogs are carried from the sinughter, and hung in dense rows to stiffen till the following morning. It is now filled with a whole population of suspended hogs, and numerous sturgly Dutchmen are busy in loading them into wagens for the transfer to the cutting-house on the river. Cornecting with the slaughter-pen is an im mease lengitudinal sealding tub; and appended to tha e a long brach whereon the hogs, after passing the scale, are scraped and shorn. The tub is filled with murky liquid which emits a prefuse steam. The foreman receives word from a negro who has ascertained the temperature of this figurd with a thermometer, and prevenues the sould ready. This is tantameunt

to a call-to arms. An immense whetting of knives en sues, and every man betakes him to his post.

Wishing to witness the whole process, we follow two men who are making for the slaughter-pen, and mounting the stage and issuing from the building, we are afforded a bird's eye view of the whole prospect around. Whew! what a tainted atmosphere assails our outraged nostrils! Cologne, the city of stinks, is a rose-garden in comparison. Immediately beneath the eye is a maze of pens, at this moment containing some six thousand hogs cooped up for slaughter, and the odor exhaled from them, and the deafening discordant din, as is borne upward to our ear, render our position a perfectly painful one. Beneath us to the right lies an immense accumulation of refuse animal matter—the entrails and waste parts of the hog, which has been gathering since the commencement of the slaughtering and this, as it lies alternately freezing in the wind and festering in the sun, could not avoid, amid any other human community, spreading some direful infection. The pen we are standing in as we make this rapid survey is alive with equealing wretches, and the advent of us bipeds among them gives concentration to their vocal exercises. The two men are provided with a hammer each, made expressly for their death-dealing purpose having a face about the circumference of a grape-st and a handle the length of an ax-helve. The themselves at opposite sides of the pen, and, each singling his victim, aims a blow and buries his hammer in the cranium of a hog. The poor animals fall, outstretched and withering. This onslaught is continued until the whole-holocaust is made, and at least twenty wretches he senseless around. Laying side their hammers, the men draw their long dirkbladed knives, and with one thrust, made with surgical precision, penetrate the hearts of their victims. The door is opened, men bearing hog-hooks present themselves, and the twenty lifeless parci are withdrawn toward the scalding tub. Laborers then procced to fill the fatal pen, by driving in another small herd, and the process of replenishment and depopulation is continued without pause through the entire day. We learned that these clubbing Herculeses, together with the gutter, are the best men in the corps; since their task is an extremely ardnous one and attended with great danger; it being by no means an unfrequent occurrence for a hog to turn on them and attack them with his tusks, and their only resource is in the readiness and skill to protect themselves from severe

Recutering the slaughter-house we watch the defunct porkers delivered into fresh hands. By the side of the scalding tub stands our portly friend, the negro, as imperious as a Commodore on a foreign station he is a captain (or, more correctly, foreman) of the cald. His authority is absolute, and his paler-visaged attendants obey his behests with unesitating alacrity. The hogs are raised in succession and plunged into the tub; men stationed at each side keep them constantly in motion, and gradually progressing toward the other end of the tub. Scalding water and the negro seem to be on terms of amity, for he keeps his hands, without any apparent inconvenience, dallying about the surface, and plucking at the dorsal brissles of the hog. After an immersion of about five minutes the bristles are disloged with facility, and with one dexterous wring he clears the feet of their hairy covering, and orders the hog to be withdrawn. A man at each side raises it on the bench with hooks, and as the animal lies on his side, two men placed eppesite to each other hastily scrape off the bristles, and, rolling the hog over, deliver it to two others, who depillate the opposite side, while the former pair commence upon another hog. The scraping per-formed, the hog makes another semi-revolution, and now falls into the hands of the shavers. These are men of rather higher artistic attainment than the erapers-being generally a selection of the élite of their ranks. Their pay is a trifle higher, and their performances require more practice and skill. These shavers again go over the surface of the hog with keen knives, and remove by shaving all obstinate hairs that refused dislodgement before the persuasive edge of the scraper. With a freer motion than a barber their knives glance over the whitened skin of the subject; with a dexterous turn they hand him over to their brother operators, who subject the other side to the same process; and, giving him yet another turn, a fresh artist seizes upon him, and clearing his gambril strings in the hind houghs, relinquishes him to another, who inserts a wooden gambril in the sinews, and, with the assistance of a second, hoists the flaccid animal upon the broad back of a stalwart negro, who hangs him upon one of a row of hooks to await the

process of disemboweling. Having thus accompanied the hog along the length of the bench during this hasty process, we look back to contemplate the gang of busy operators. Scarcely three minutes have elapsed since the first hog left the scalding-tub, and already the beach is filled with steaming subjects, and every man is working away at the top of his speed. There is no room for loitering here; each man must keep pace with his fellow in the performance of his work, or he retards the whole company. And among packing-houses generally there is such a rivalry existing in regard to the number of hogs 'turned out" at each establishment daily, which subject is untiringly canvassed over the tavern stoves where the men assemble of an evening, that the espris du corps existing among them affords a sufficient in centive to urge on their work with the utmost dispatch and emulate each other in the celerity of their povements. These men do not impress us so favorably as the beef-butchers whom we have previously noticed: their work is of a less scientific character there is less of unnatural slapdash and individual expertness in their performance; and we remark that he larger proportion are Germans and Irish.

Following the hog, we come to the Agamemnon of he field-the "gutter" par excellence. This man's task is herculean, but here, at least, is the right man in the right place-for we have a perfect Hercules to perform it. He is a New-Orleans negro of gigantic mold, with great physical energy depicted on his countenance; his arms, which are of the girth of many a man's body, are bare, and he has a strip of cloth bound around his right wrist to sustain it. The average number slaughtered daily in the establishment we are now looking through is 1,200, occasionally reaching 1,500; and to disembowel this immense herd one man is found sufficient. To disembowel sever hegs to the minute is a performance that we have frequently heard vouched for, but in our limited experience through the pork slaughter-houses of the Western cities we never yet saw the man who could do it. But supposing that rate-by a fortuitous combination of circumstances-attained, it can only be regarded as an exceptional performance; since, like running a footrace, it is exhaustive of the physical forces, and can in no way be regarded as a gauge for a day's work. To return to our sable friend. With the untiring regularity of machinery, he moves along each gathering row of hogs, ripping open the animal, with one powerful and dexterous stroke of the knife, from aitch to brisket bone; with one practiced cut he severs diaphragm and viscera, and with a third stroke completes the work. He is followed by the dresser, who, with copious ablutions of clear cold water, washes away every impurity, and puts the finishing touch by removing every stray bristle that has happened to escape the knives of the shavers. After draining a brief space, the bleached carcass is removed to the drying-room adjoining, where it is left till the followng morning to stiffen. In Cincinnati the packing-house is remote from the

slaughter-house in consequence of the absence of water communication, and the packing-houses being aff concentrated near the river in Water street, leads to the recessity of the carriage of the hogs through the city -Sunday affording so interruption-in immense wagons drawn by four powerful horses. We had no opportunity of visiting these places, and in order to afford the reader a full insight into a process of which he has thus far seen but half, we will beg him to accompany as yet a hundred and fifty miles further down the Ohic River, and take a turn, having us for a guide, hemispheres.

Here, as in Chicago, the slanghtering and packing re performed in the same building, a creek flowing past the house affording direct communication, inward and outward, with the river. Ascending a flight of stairs, the need of which will be apparent presently, we enter the enting-room, and are almost bewildered with the varied scene of industry that opens upon us. At the further end of this immense apartment is the laughter-house: from the varied sounds that issue thence we are informed that the butchers are at work, but it is effectually concealed from view by an intervening forest of hogs which are suspended in rows cross the building. Three or four stout negroes are busied in removing them; with an unintermitting hant they shoulder their stiffened burden, and deposit it upon racks contiguous to the chopping blocks.
Other negroes (called feeders) are employed raising hog after hog up the block, where stand two cutters, each wielding a long-bladed cleaver with razor-like edge, with which they reduce the rapidly-succeeding carcasses to pieces. These are attended on by block. men, who place the dismembered portions so as fairly o receive the stroke, and with hooks distribute the sieces to their various recipients. By the side of each niter stands a steaming tub of water, in which he

ever and anon plunges the blade of his cleaver, since

the heat thus imparted to the metal sends it more

clearly and readily through the clogging fat. Contigu-

ons to the cutting-blocks, the ham-trimmers are sta-

ioned, who with knife and saw shape the rough

hannches into hams, and send them, when finished,

down a tubular chute to the packers below, Similar

the workmen to avoid any inconvenient accumulation

hutes receive other portions of the hog, thus enabling

through the well-conducted house of Mesers. Hull,

Hunt & Co. of Louisville.

While we regard the busy scenes, a boy with a buc ket comes round, and all eagerly partake of the liquor which he dispenses in a small tin measure. Supposing t to be water, we innocently ask him for a drink; but before it is handed to us an unequivocal spirituous oder, exhaling from the bucket, informs us of our mistake, and we decline the proffered drink. The stimulating effects of the liquid are immediately perceptible. The rival cutters at the two blocks commence working against each other; their flashing cleavers descend with unintermitted stroke; their influence is communicated to the feeders, who react upon their darkey triends, the porters: and all alike redouble their exertions under the subtle influence of old Monongahela. The spirit extends to the packers below, and, striking up a negro song, the coopers' hammers fly and the packers' maul is plied, until the very building shakes with the energy of their combined labors.

We dwell a while to contemplate the cutters: such super-human efforts as they are now making cannot be long sustained; but which couple will first tire out? At the block nearer to us are two fine, athletic young countrymen from the opposite shore of Indiana; this is their first season, and they are ambitions to distinguish themselves. At the other block are two tough, wiry old stagers-Kentuckians; their muscles hardened to the exercise, and themselves as cool as an avalanche. They ply their cleavers in silence, but already they are two or three hogs in advance of their competitors, and in them it is idle to look for symptoms of distress. Our Indiana friends are rapidly giving out, profuse perspiration streams from their faces, although there is a heavy frost upon the ground, and their strokes become irregular and faltering. At length pature becomes exhausted. Throwing up their cleavers, they wipe their glowing faces and sit down to recover breath. The victory is hailed with vociferations from the pegrees, and 'Hurrah for old Kentucky!" was ringing in deafenng shouts throughout the cutting room as we turned and descended the stairs to the packers below.

Arriving in the packing room, we find that the passage of arms" we have just witnessed has completely distanced those worthics, and they are fain to cry you mercy." The immense troughs with which the chutes communicate are literally running over, and the selectors are incommoded with the too rapidly accumulating supply. Advancing to the foot of the stairs, one of the workmen explains in characteristic terms: "What the --!" (we lost the conclusion of his ejeculations) "are you running wild up there? bold on your choppers awhile, if you don't want to smother us."

Relief being granted, we watch them while they work. By the side of each trough a pair of scales are suspended, upon which a selector weighs off drafts chosen pieces. Each weighing contains two bendred pounds, and forms the contents of a barrel. In making up the draft we remark that he is careful to select an invariable number of certain portions of the hog, and when the amount is obtained he deposits the pieces with his book in a vacant compartment of the trough, being scrupulous to lay three or four of the handsomest cuts aside to be placed last in the barrel. nd forming what are called the kead-pieces. On the opposite side of the trough the packer stands, compactly arranging these weighings separately into barrels. Considerable expertness is shown by him in adjusting one piece to another, and over every layer of pork he spreads a scoop-full of salt. He has a heavy manl, with which he rams his load well home, and when the barrel is charged with its contents he tilts it and gives it a whirl out of his way. The cooper then cizes it, and in an incredibly short time has it securely headed up; and laying it on its bilge, sends it along with his foot, when it is taken by a laborer and rolled into the brine-yard. This work is all performed with remarkable celerity; and while we stand observing them for a few moments the undue accomulation is cleared away, and the cutters above resume their artuous labors. We neglected to inquire how many barrels a day a packer is capable of filling; but judgng from the rate at which they were working, we should suppose the number would not be less than from one hundred and twenty-five to one handred and

Proceeding to the next trough we come upon the ham-packers. These are placed in hogsheads coutaining four hundred pounds. This appears to be lighter work, for the reason that the hams being of uniform shape are packed more readily together, and being also heavier than the other portions of the heg. there is less handling imposed to a given weight. The shoulders are similarly packed in hogsheads from nother trough.

We are contemplating a busy scene. "Division of employments" is here pushed to its utmost limit. Beside the weighers, the packers and the coopers, there is a class of laborers constantly carrying bags of salt from some unfalling source, and emptying them into the troughs. Other laborers are engaged bringing in empty barrels, and again others in rolling out the fall ones. Boys perambulate the place collecting all stray agments into barrows; and a principal of the firm as his eye vigilantly about to see whether in throwing the pieces into the scales the pea is not jerked into nother notch of the beam.

Leaving this room, we next proceed to the place devoted to the curing of bulk pork. "Bulk Pork." which we see so frequently made mention of in the market quotations, consists of the middles-that is to say, the sides with the hams and shoulders struck of, and it is generally cured with sugar, with a view to its being smoked for bacon. The proceedings here are on a scale corresponding in extent with the rooms we have previously looked through. Vast quadrangular piles of salted provisions are reared in rows along the room. and numerous gangs of laborers are busy rubbing the curative component-consisting of salt, saltpeter and unrefined sugar-into a deposit of pork sides of more secent formation. The meat is dry-cured, which is a process involving great additional labor; as all these nonumental formations have to be taken down piece by piece, every alternate day, for a period of four or more weeks, and well rubbed with the dry preserve, and again placed in their architectural position sufficiently cured, the pieces are packed in bexes extaining a weight of four or five hundred pounds, and sent on their grateful errand to all parts of the two